



# ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN NO MOW MAY?

No Mow May is an environmental initiative that encourages people to stop mowing or mow less often for the month of May to create habitat and provide resources for bees and other early-season pollinators.

Participants in No Mow May will **not** be fined for any tall grass/weed violations during the month of May. City ordinance states that all grass or weeds must be kept lower than 7" in height. **All properties participating in No Mow May will be required to correct any tall grass/weed violations by Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.** Any properties that are still in violation after June 5<sup>th</sup> will be referred to a City contractor and the property owner will be charged accordingly. Please be advised that any lawns that are not mowed during the month of May will grow very tall (12"-18"). Most homeowner push mowers will struggle to cut grass that tall, so be prepared to take extra time during the first cut in June.

**IF YOU WISH TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE CONTACT (414) 286-2489(CITY) WITHIN 5 DAYS OF THE DATE ON THE ENCLOSED VIOLATION LETTER.**

The earlier you call, the faster we will be able to process your request. If you do not wish to participate in No Mow May, your property will be re-inspected after 5 days from the date of the enclosed letter and any remaining violation will be referred to a City contractor.



### ***Tips for mowing long grass at the conclusion of No Mow May and promoting a healthy lawn:***

- Adjust your mower to the highest setting and make the first pass to reduce the grass height. After you have reduced the grass height to a more manageable length, change the mower setting by reducing the height of the blade, before making a second pass.
- Do not cut more than 1/3 of the grass blade at a time in a single mowing. For example, if your grass is 6 inches tall, do not remove more than 2 inches of length. This helps prevent root stress and promotes turf vigor. If your grass is really tall, try mowing once during the last week of May and then again before June 5<sup>th</sup> to avoid stressing your turf grass.
- **Reminder:** Do not mow or blow grass clippings into the street. Grass and leaves in the street can travel with rainwater into the City stormwater sewers. Many stormwater facilities flow directly into our local rivers without pretreatment and the added nutrients can cause algal blooms and other detrimental effects. Debris in the street can also be dangerous for drivers, especially motorcycles and bicycles.

*Interested in learning about more ways to support native pollinators? Consider planting native plants! For more information, visit the DNR's website:*

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/endangeredresources/nativeplants.html>

